

Appln No. 09/695,900

Amdt date September 22, 2005

Reply to Office action of June 22, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-9 (Canceled).

10. (Currently Amended) A method ~~[[of]]~~ for indicating to a viewer of a hyperlinked television broadcast that ~~a region~~ an object of an image a video frame has associated therewith hyperlinked information, the method comprising:

determining whether the object in the video frame is viewable during a particular shot;

displaying an interactive content icon indicative responsive to the determination that the object is viewable during the particular shot, the icon for indicating that the object a region within a television broadcast image has hyperlinked information associated therewith; and

visually highlighting the object during the particular shot.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein said interactive content icon ~~is displayed in a configuration substantially similar to~~ reflects a subset of the buttons on a remote control.

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12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein said interactive content icon is displayed with a visual effect that automatically changes with time, simulating the action of depressing one or more buttons of said remote control, wherein each change of the visual effect is accompanied with an automatic change of an object in the video frame that is visually highlighted.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said displayed interactive content icon includes a display of text that explains that functionality of the one or more buttons.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, ~~wherein said~~ further comprising displaying the interactive content icon ~~is displayed~~ in response to a signal contained within the hyperlinked television broadcast.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, ~~wherein said~~ further comprising displaying the interactive content icon ~~is displayed~~ in response to a change in ~~[[the]]~~ a video image that is displayed.

Claim 16 (Canceled).

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, ~~wherein said~~ further comprising displaying the interactive content icon ~~is displayed~~ in response to a viewer's use of a remote control.

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18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein said interactive content icon conveys information about [[the]] content of said hyperlinked information associated with ~~a region~~ the object.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein said interactive content icon conveys information about the number of ~~regions~~ objects having said hyperlinked information associated therewith.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein said interactive content icon conveys information about an action associated with ~~a region~~ the object, said action comprising displaying at least one of text and graphics and switching to another video stream.

21. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said interactive content icon comprises an alphanumeric character.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein alphanumeric character ~~represents~~ displays a time period remaining until an interaction opportunity will occur.

23. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the object is visually highlighted in response to a user command.

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24. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein a plurality of objects viewable during the particular shot are each automatically highlighted in sequence.

25. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the object is associated with a visibility indicia indicative of whether the object is viewable during the particular shot.

26. (New) A hyperlinked television broadcast reception system for indicating to a viewer of a hyperlinked television broadcast that an object of a video frame has associated therewith hyperlinked information, the system comprising:

a display;

a processor; and

a memory operably coupled to the processor and having program instructions stored therein, the processor being operable to execute the program instructions, the program instructions including:

determining whether the object in the video frame is viewable during a particular shot;

displaying an interactive content icon on the display responsive to the determination that the object is viewable during the particular shot, the icon for indicating that the object has hyperlinked information associated therewith; and

visually highlighting the object during the particular shot.

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27. (New) The system of claim 26, wherein the object is visually highlighted in response to a user command.

28. (New) The system of claim 26, wherein a plurality of objects viewable during the particular shot are each automatically highlighted in sequence.

29. (New) The system of claim 26, wherein the object is associated with a visibility indicia indicative of whether the object is viewable during the particular shot.

30. (New) The system of claim 26, wherein said interactive content icon is displayed with a visual effect that automatically changes with time, wherein each change of the visual effect is accompanied with an automatic change of an object in the video frame that is visually highlighted.

31. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the interactive content icon indicates a time period remaining until an interaction opportunity will occur.